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Notice: This book has been written in light of the primary sources of evidence in Islam, namely the Quran and the Sunna (traditions of Prophet Muhammad).

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## **Publisher's Foreword**

All praise be to Allah, The One God, The Creator, The Lord of the worlds. We praise Him, we glorify Him and we sanctify Him. We proclaim His complete oneness and we declare His complete freedom from having partners of any kind. He is but One God and there is no god but Him. We exalt His mention and we affirm His complete perfection. Glorified is He, free and far removed is He from all imperfections. He is The All Praiseworthy, The All Glorious.

All praise be to Him in whose Name this book has been published. This is a most beautiful book entitled, 'The Beautiful Names of Allah- Knowing God by His Names.' It is with great pleasure that we publish this beautiful book which discusses the most exalted of all knowledge. We ask Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, to accept this publication from us and to include us amongst those who strive in raising His Word. Truly He is The Most Appreciative, The All Knowing.

### **About the author**

Sister Kamillah is an American Muslim whose ancestors came to the United States onboard the Abigail in the year 1635. She was born and raised in Michigan in a Christian household where she was kept close to the religious teachings and the church. But she could not accept the trinity nor could she accept that God had a son. She believed in The One God. Thus she embarked on a spiritual journey in search for the truth, embracing Islam in the late 1970s after recognizing it to be the religion of pure monotheism. She recalls how many Americans were embracing Islam during that time due to its call to the worship of The One God. The media influence was less negative about Islam during that time and the extremism in the Muslim world was less rampant, making it easier for the Americans to understand the original teachings of the religion. She has spent her years practicing Islam and studying its teachings as found in the Quran and the Sunna (prophetic teachings). She is a devout practicing Muslim and a student of knowledge who calls to Monotheism and the original teachings of the religion. She is a sociologist who has traveled the



Allah, the Exalted, has described Himself by His Names and Attributes. There is none who can describe Him except how He has described Himself. There is none who can encompass anything of His knowledge except for what He wills. He chose to reveal some of His Names that we may know Him by His Names. These Names describe His Oneness, His Existence and His Perfection. Through knowing His Names we are able to know Him and draw closer to Him. Indeed that is the great attainment and the best of all knowledge that we may draw closer to our Lord.

### **The Names of Allah describe His Oneness**

**Allah, there is no god but Him. To Him belong The Most Perfect Names. (Quran 20:8)**

The Names of Allah describe His Oneness. He is The One God, there is no god but Him, to Him belong the Most Perfect Names. All of His Names are descriptions of Him. They are the Names of The One God. Whether we call Him Allah or we call Him God or we call Him The Creator, it is all the same, to Him belong the Most Perfect Names.

**And (Noah) said, 'Seek forgiveness of your Lord. Indeed He is ever Oft Forgiving.' (Quran 71:10)**

Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, sent prophets as messengers to call the people back to His sole worship. His messengers called to the oneness of God and they described Him by His Names and Attributes so that the people could know their Lord. From Noah to Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon them all, the messengers of Allah described the Names of their Lord. That is because Allah is The One God and there is no god but Him and to Him belong the Most Perfect Names.

### **The Names of Allah describe His Existence**

**He is Allah, The Creator, The Maker, The Fashioner. To Him belong the Most Perfect Names. (Quran 59:24)**

The Names of Allah describe His Existence. They describe various attributes of His Self, His Life and His Existence. Each Name of Allah describes some aspect of Him. His Name Al Waahid (The One) describes His complete oneness. His Name As Samad (The Eternal) describes His eternal existence without beginning or end. His Name Al Hayy (The Living) describes how He is living with perfect



Husnaa and they have been revealed with Husnaa. The Names of Allah have been revealed majestically with beauty, grandeur and excellence. When we read the verses from the Quran and the narrations from the Sunna we begin to appreciate the beauty and splendor by which the Names of Allah have been majestically revealed.

When we consider these three descriptions we find many grammatical patterns which serve to emphasize the Names of Allah in the Quran and the Sunna.

### Pattern 1

The first pattern is the obvious pattern which does not require much discussion. The Names of Allah at times appear linguistically in the form of proper nouns such that Allah, the Exalted, is mentioned by one of His Names as the subject or object of the sentence or phrase.

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: وَالرَّبُّ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, 'And The Lord is Allah, High and Exalted.' (Sunan Abu Dawud no. 4975)

In the above narration the Name Ar Rabb (The Lord) appears linguistically as the subject of the sentence indicating how this is indeed a Name of Allah. There are several Names of Allah which appear in the subjective form including the following mentioned below.

1. Allah	Quran 2:255
2. Al Jabbaar (The Compeller)	Sahih Muslim 6984
3. Ar Rahman (The All Merciful)	Quran 55:1
4. Ar Rabb (The Lord)	Sunan Abu Dawud 4975
5. As Subbooh (The All Pure)	Sunan Abu Dawud 872
6. Al Quddoos (The All Holy)	Sunan Abu Dawud 872
7. Al Hayy (The Living)	Sunan Tirmidi 3524
8. Al Qayyoom (The Self Sustaining)	Sunan Tirmidi 3524
9. As Sayyid (The Master)	Sunan Abu Dawud 4806

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: سُبْحَانَ الْمَلِكِ الْقُدُّوسِ

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, 'Glory be to The King, The All Holy.' (Sunan Abu Dawud no. 1430)

In the above narration the Names Al Malik (The King) and Al Quddoos (The All Holy) appear linguistically as the object of the sentence indicating how these are indeed Names of Allah. There are several Names of Allah which appear in the objective form in the texts of the Quran and the Sunna including the following mentioned below.

1. Allah	Quran 2:98
2. Al Malik (The King)	Sunan Abu Dawud 1430
3. Al Quddoos (The All Holy)	Sunan Abu Dawud 1430
4. Ar Rabb (The Lord)	Quran 2:21
5. Al Azeez (The All Mighty)	Quran 38:9
6. Al Wahhaab (The Bestower)	Quran 38:9
7. Al Aleem (The All Knowing)	Quran 36:38
8. Ar Raheem (The Most Merciful)	Quran 26:217
9. Al Hakeem (The All Wise)	Quran 39:1
10. Al Haqq (The Truth)	Quran 18:44
11. Ar Rahman (The All Merciful)	Quran 25:26
12. Al Hayy (The Living)	Quran 25:58
13. Al Waahid (The One)	Quran 14:48
14. Al Qahhaar (The Invincible)	Quran 14:48
15. Al Hameed (The All Praiseworthy)	Quran 14:1
16. Al Alee (The Most High)	Quran 40:12
17. Al Kabeer (The Most Great)	Quran 40:12
18. Al Ghaffaar (The Oft Forgiving)	Quran 40:42
19. Al Ilaah (God)	Quran 2:163
20. Al Mawlaa (The Protector)	Quran 2:286
21. Al Walee (The Ally)	Quran 6:127



72. Ar Raqeeb (The Watcher)
73. Al Khabeer (The All Aware)
74. Al Baseer (The All Seeing)
75. As Sameea (The All Hearing)
76. Ash Shaheed (The All Witness)
77. Al Kafeel (The Guarantor)
78. Al Haseeb (The Reckoner)
79. As Shaakir (The Appreciative)
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92. Al Qaahir (The Subjugator)
93. Al Jabbaar (The Compeller)
94. Al Qahhaar (The Invincible)
95. Al Mutakabbir (The Supreme)
96. Al Khallaaq (The Oft Creating One)

97. Al Fattaah (The Opener)

98. Ad Dayyaan (The Recompenser)

99. Al Waasi (The Vast)

These are the ninety nine Names of Allah, the Mighty and Majestic, which we can gather from the authentic texts of the Quran and the Sunna.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> There are a few mistakes in trying to identify the Names of Allah. We briefly discuss a few of them here.

#### The Names of Allah are not phrases

Each Name of Allah is a single word Name in the language of revelation. In the last revelation the Names of Allah have been revealed as single Arabic words.

Forgiver of sin, acceptor of repentance... (Quran 40:3)

In the above verse, Allah describes Himself as Ghaafir Ad Dhanb (forgiver of sin) and Qaabil At Tawb (acceptor of repentance). These expressions are noble descriptions of Him but they are not His Names. These descriptions make use of multiple Arabic words while the Names of Allah are all single Arabic nouns.

Owner of majesty and honor (Quran 55:27)

Similarly, in the above verse Allah describes Himself as Dhul Jalaal Wal Ikraam (owner of majesty and honor). This expression is a magnificent description of Him but it is not His Name. It is a phrase which makes use of multiple Arabic words while the Names of Allah are all single Arabic nouns. There are many texts which describe Allah's attributes using phrases. All of these expressions are noble descriptions of His attributes but they cannot be counted as His Names.

Lord of the worlds (Quran 1:2)

This is another example of a descriptive phrase. Here Allah describes Himself as the Lord of the worlds. Although Ar Rabb (The Lord) is one of His Names it cannot be proven through this text. This is because the word Rabb has been annexed and appears in the form of a phrase. Hence, this verse cannot be used as proof.

The Messenger of Allah said, 'And The Lord is Allah, High and Exalted.' (Sunan Abu Dawud no. 4975)

This narration is textual proof that Ar Rabb (The Lord) is indeed a Name of Allah because the Name appears in the definitive with the Al particle (The) before it. Hence the principle remains that each Name of Allah is a single word Name in the language of revelation.

We should note that when a Name of Allah is translated from a language of revelation to another language, it may be translated as multiple words. This is because other





Allah

## Meaning

Allah is The Name of God. He is Allah, The One God, there is no god but Him. He is Allah, The Creator of all that exists. He is Allah, the Lord of the worlds and the Lord of everything.

## Remembrance

When we know Allah by this Name we know the Name of God. We know the Name of The Creator. Whether we call Him Allah or we call Him God or we call Him The Creator, it is all the same, to Him belong the Most Perfect Names. He is The One God of whom there is no god but Him. He is The Creator of the heavens and the earth and all they contain. He is The God of mankind and The God of all the prophets. That is Allah, our Lord, there is no god but Him. Blessed is His Name, full of majesty and honor, to Him belongs the highest description and to Him belong the Most Perfect Names. His Name Allah encompasses all descriptions of Him. It includes all His attributes of pure perfection. He has various Names which describe various aspects of Him but His Name Allah encompasses all aspects of Him. That is Allah, The All Perfect, complete perfection is for Him. Blessed is His Name and blessed is the majesty of our Lord.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, 'I have turned my face towards He who originated the heavens and the earth as a monotheist and I am not from amongst the polytheists. Verily my prayer and my sacrifice and my living and my dying are for Allah, Lord of the worlds, no partner has He. And with that I have been commanded and I am amongst those who submit.' (Sahih Muslim no. 1812)

## Reference

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ﴿١﴾ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

In The Name of Allah, The All Merciful, The Most Merciful. All Praise be to Allah, Lord of the worlds. (Quran 1:1-2)

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, 'O Allah, You are Allah, there is no god but You.' (Sunan Abu Dawud no. 1173)



The Creator

## Meaning

Allah is The Creator. He is the sole Creator of everything. He brings creation into existence after it had been nothing. He creates whatever He wills and chooses. He is The Creator and there is no creator but Him.

## Remembrance

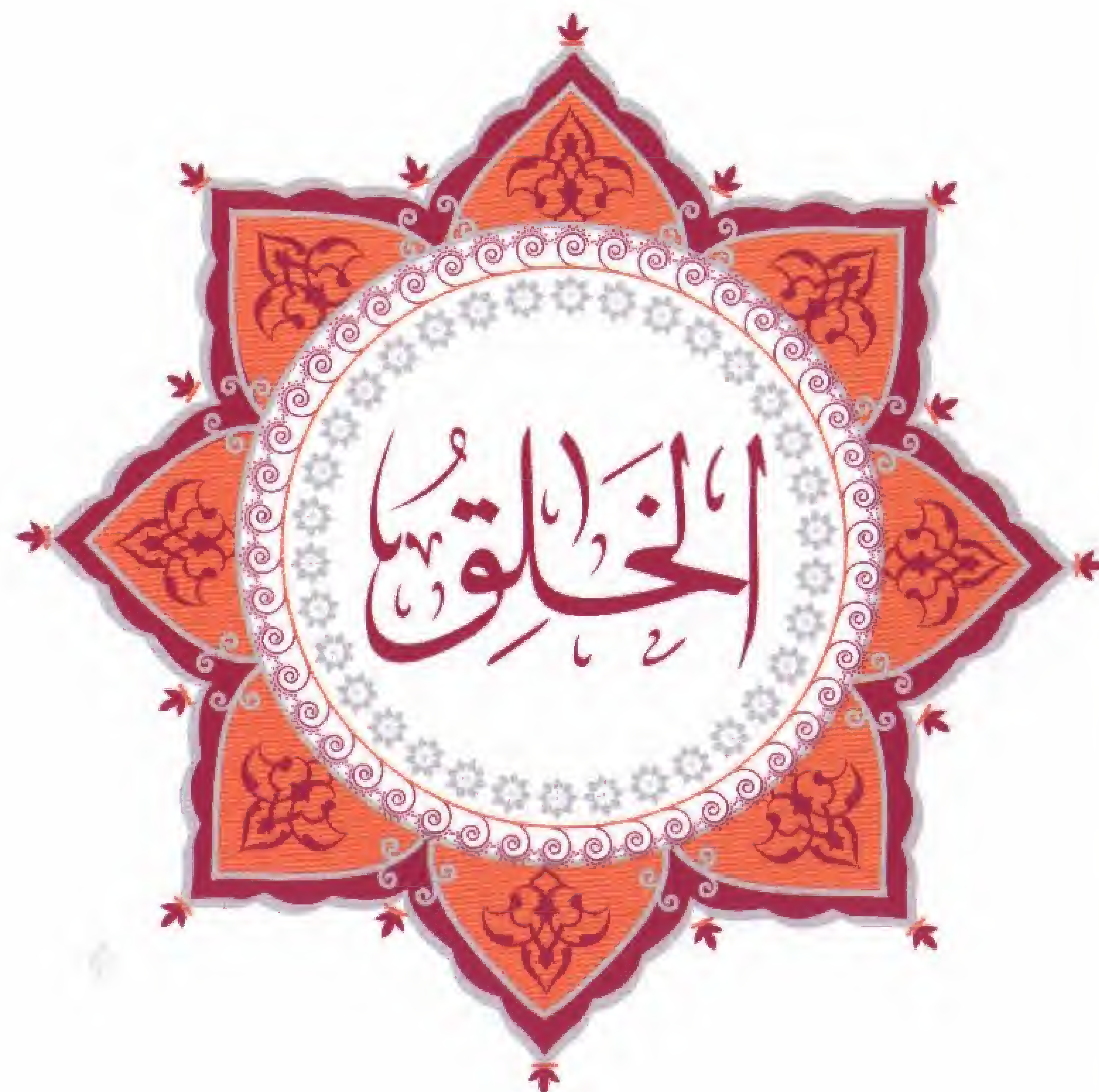
When we know Allah by this Name we know He is The Creator. We know He is the Creator of everything. Whether we call Him Allah or we call Him God or we call Him The Creator, it is all the same, to Him belong the most perfect Names. He is Allah, The One God, The Creator of everything. He has the knowledge and ability to create whatever He wills. He is all knowing of every creation. He creates whatever He wills and chooses, giving creation no choice in the matter. It was not for the heavens to express a view nor did the earth have a say. He is the sole Creator and there is no creator but Him. He was alone in creating the vastness of space and He alone regulates time. That is Allah, The Sole Creator who creates whatever He wills. He created the heavens and the earth and all they contain. He created the stars and all that is greater than them. He created the grains of sand and all that is less than them. He created a variety of living forms dispersing them throughout the heavens and the earth in any manner He willed. He created that which we know and that which we do not know. He created everything in existence. That is Allah, The Creator of everything. We affirm He is The Creator when we contemplate the origin of the universe. We bear witness that He is The Creator when we observe the signs within creation. We acknowledge His sole right to be worshipped for He is The Creator and everything else is His creation. It is only befitting that we worship He who created us. Then blessed is Allah, our Creator and the Creator of everything, there is no god but Him.

The Prophet ﷺ said, 'O Allah, You are my Lord, there is no god but You. You created me and I am Your servant.' (Sahih Bukhari no. 6306)

## Reference

هُوَ اللَّهُ الْخَلِيقُ الْبَارِئُ الْمُصَوِّرُ لَهُ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَى

He is Allah, The Creator, The Maker, The Fashioner. To Him belong The Most Perfect Names. (Quran 59:24)





# Al Kareem الْكَرِيمُ

The Most Generous

## Meaning

Allah is The Most Generous. He is Munificent and Generous. With His richness and nobility there is also His generosity. He is liberal in His spending and His generosity is abundant and vast.

## Remembrance

When we know Allah by this Name we know He is The Most Generous. We know He is most generous in His giving. He is The All Rich who gives generously from His bounty. He spends generously and liberally on His creation. Look at what He has spent on the heavens and the earth and all they contain. He has filled the heavens with grandeur concealing much splendor within its unseen world. He has filled the earth with generous amount of resources. He created Adam in the best of shape and gave him knowledge and authority on the earth out of His generosity and grace. How many a soul receives far more than its basic need for survival. How generous and magnificent is His reward in the life of the hereafter. He has promised a most generous reward in the kingdom of paradise awaiting the believers. Then is there anyone who will strive for His generous reward. When we think of Allah's generosity we increase in gratitude to Him. We thank Him and we praise Him and we hope for His reward. Blessed is the Name of our Lord.

And when (Solomon) saw it placed before him, he said, 'This is from the grace of my Lord to see if I will be grateful or ungrateful. And whoever is grateful then his gratefulness is only for (the benefit) of himself. And whoever is ungrateful then indeed my Lord is All Rich, Most Generous.' (Quran 27:40)

## Reference

يَتَأْتِيهَا إِلَّا نَسْنُ مَا غَرَّكَ رَبِّكَ الْكَرِيمُ

O mankind, what has deceived you concerning your Lord, The Most Generous? (Quran 82:6)

قَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْحَلِيمُ الْكَرِيمُ

The Prophet ﷺ said, 'There is no god but Allah, The Most Forbearing, The Most Generous.' (Sunan Ibn Majah no. 3883)







## The Vast

### Meaning

Allah is The Vast. He is the One who is vast in all aspects of His existence. He is vast in all His attributes of perfection. He is vast without limits for He is the One with absolute existence.

### Remembrance

When we know Allah by this Name we know He is The Vast. We know He is vast in all aspects of His Existence. He is vast without limits and there is nothing like Him. He is absolute in His existence and no vision can perceive Him. He has everlasting life without beginning or end. He is The First and The Last and The Manifest and The Hidden. He has complete transcendence over everything. He is vast in all His attributes of perfection. He is vast in His mercy which encompasses all of creation. He is vast in His knowledge having absolute knowledge of everything. He is vast in His power and ability having no end to His capacity for He is All Able over everything. He is vast in His richness and generosity. His spending on the heavens and the earth has not diminished His richness in the least. He is not limited in any aspect of His existence. He is all comprehending of everything. When we remember Allah by this Name we increase in reverence of Him. In awe of His majesty, in all of His perfection, we glorify His praises and we submit to Him. We invoke Him by His most beautiful Names and we declare His complete perfection. He is vast and His Names are vast and there is none who can know the complete Names of our Lord.

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said, 'O Allah, I ask You by every Name belonging to You which You have named Yourself by, or revealed in Your Book, or taught anyone from Your creation, or kept within the knowledge of the unseen with You, that You make the Quran the life of my heart and the light of my chest,' (Musnad Ahmad no. 3712)

### Reference

وَكَانَ اللَّهُ وَاسِعًا حَكِيمًا

And ever is Allah Vast, All Wise. (Quran 4:130)